

22 JUVENILE RAMBLES.

vey immense burthens of treasure on the surface of the ocean.

Though the oak is the most useful and stately tree, yet there are many others that are very valuable, and none of them to be despised, since there is not a single tree, nor even a shrub, but what has its use. The elm, the ash, the chestnut, and the walnut, have each their separate use; but the walnut-tree is too well known to you, on account of the employment it produces for your nut-crackers, to need my saying any thing about it.

When trees are thick planted together, they are called a wood, which affords a most pleasing retreat from the heat of the summer's noon-day sun. There we hear nothing of the noise and bustle of the world; but the black-bird, thrush, linnnet, and the other inhabitants of those seats of melody, strain their little throats to welcome our visit, and to amuse us while we stay there. Hark! what an uproar the woods are now in with the music

JUVENILE RAMBLES. 23

fic of the birds. What a pity it is, that little boys should rob these pretty birds of their eggs!

I observed to you, that the oak-tree was produced from an acorn, and in like manner every tree is produced either from seeds or kernels that are in the inside of their fruit, or else from little plants taken from the old roots, or slips taken off from their branches. The loppings of these trees afford us comfortable and cheerful fires in the winter season; but other parts of them are more valuable; for our tanners, without the bark, could not prepare leather for our use, nor without bark could the dyers carry on their trade. Were it not for the trees, Billy, what would you do for bats, traps, and tops?

The trees also afford shelter to the pretty little birds, who, when it rains, hide themselves under the leaves; and, when the shower is over, they hop from twig to twig, shake their little tails, and express